

Appl. No. 10/787,085
Amendment dated: December 6, 2005
Reply to OA of: September 12, 2005

REMARKS

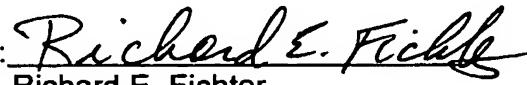
Applicants acknowledge with appreciation the allowance of claims 6, 7, 17 and 25-32. Applicants have restricted the application to the allowed subject matter to place the application in immediate condition for allowance.

The only issue remaining in the outstanding Official Action is with respect to claim 22 which is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Romanian Patent No. RO 668333 in view of Ray et al. Applicants believe that this rejection does not establish a case of *prima facie* obviousness of the claimed subject matter of claim 22. However, in an effort to expedite allowance of the application, Applicants have canceled claim 22 without prejudice or disclaimer thereby obviating this rejection. Applicants retain all rights to pursue the canceled subject matter in a further continuation application. Accordingly, it is most respectfully submitted that this rejection has been obviated and should be withdrawn.

In view of the above comments and further amendments to the claims, it is believed that the application is now in condition for immediate allowance and the same is most respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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